THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Bible Material: Malachi.
Devotional Reading: I John 1:5-9.

The Long Pull

Lesson for September 27, 1959

Dr. Foreman

THE SAME thing never happens twice. But the same kind of thing happens over and over in the history of mankind. Man is the same sort of creature everywhere you find him, and all the gadgets and inventions of the past 300 years have not changed him very much. So you might expect the same kind of situation or problem to turn up again and again in the long story of man on this planet.

One of these might be called the Run-Down Situation. We could call it the Problem of the But. It is the state of things when nothing of great importance is happening as far as we can see, when one day is about like most other day. In fact, it's the way life looks to many people over 40. The great thrills are over, death is nowhere yet in sight, there is nothing to do but to keep on plodding as patiently as possible.

For the Long Pull

The prophet Malachi lived in such times. This last book of the Old Testament comes from a time of disillusionment, weariness and tedium. The great thrill of coming home from exile was over long since—more than one hundred years, in fact. Nobody had seen a miracle, no Moses was in sight. The Jews in Palestine, where Malachi preached, had once been all excited about being able to come back in peace to Jerusalem to build a temple and to worship the true God. But as time went on people became tired of the endless series of sacrifices, even the priests became bored with the whole thing. People stopped coming to the temple. The priests did not think of carrying religion to the people, and the country was sinking deeper and deeper into religious indifference and moral decay. There were

NESSES. Jesus said to his friends and followers. The first and main business of Christians is not argument, it is testimony. It is not convicting ideas, it is telling a story. It is not hearsay stories, it is personal experience. The business of a witness in court or anywhere else is to state the facts as he sees them. The Church has many tasks and responsibilities; but if we forget this central responsibility we are not much good otherwise.

Testimony for Christ—witnessing on his side—is more than talk. When you order seeds or seedlings in the spring, you can read what the catalogue says and get quite excited over the prospect. Every advertisement in the seed catalogue, every picture in it, is testimony—in talk. A much more convincing testimony is what you or your neighbor actually raised. You are not going to believe in tomatoes any better than the real tomatoes you have seen and eaten, no matter what the catalogue says. But if you have admired the tomatoes from a certain kind of seed, you can let the catalogue go.

The Bible has a great deal to say about Christ, and so does the Church. But it's with the Church as with the seed catalogue—what really convinces people is some actual samples. The best witness to Christ that can possibly be, is a good Christian.

Into All the World

The tragedy of the church is something that would be very funny if it were not so tragically wrong. Every Sunday morning in almost any church, there will be people who are making two mistakes at once. One is about what "witnessing" means. They think it means words, or words-and-music. They take part in the service, they sing with loud voices, they say the nicest things about Jesus or shout "Amen!" when the preacher says them . . . and they call that "witnessing for Jesus." True testimony is not just sweet-talk set to music; it is, as St. John put it, walking as He walked, living as He lived. Furthermore, an exclusively stay-at-home witness is not what Jesus intended. He distinctly said, "to the end of the earth." How far away, in how many lands and languages, with how many missionaries, is your church testifying for Jesus? A church talking only to itself about Christ has forgotten the Directive.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

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A STAR IN F. H. A.

(Future Homemakers of America)

I am sure all of us would like to be a star in our Future Homemakers of America Club. Sometimes our parts may seem small and unimportant, but we must remember that it is important, or there would be no need for it.

Your can be a chapter "star" by setting yourself a goal and then striving for it. Make it a goal that can't be reached too easily, yet, not one that will be impossible.

One of the most important points is wearing a smile. A smiling face reveals your entire self — your friendliness, personality, and future. Attending F. H. A. meetings regularly is another important point.

When you are assigned a job to do, accept it with the thought that you will do your very best. Sometimes you may work earnestly and receive not a word of praise, but, it is still appreciated. It does not always take words to know you have completed a successful project.

Just as it takes many "stars" to make heaven, it takes many stars to make F. H. A.

—Reporter: Jean Brown.

About The Home

By Frances Dell

Though it's a bit exaggerated, it has been said a house is only as good as its doors. Doors that don't work correctly are annoying, but easily corrected.

There are all sorts of door ailments — loose hinges, failing latches, shrinking, swelling, and warping of the door itself.

If your doors are misbehaving, you will be interested in a few quick and easy methods of correcting their ailments.

Loose hinges can cause a door to stick. In order to correct this sticking malady, check to see if a hinge has worked loose. If tightening hinge screws doesn't do the trick, substitute larger screws.

Perhaps you find the hinges are tight, but the door has swollen. In this case, find the spot of contact by looking for scratches in the finish. Sand this spot with the grain of the wood, using medium sandpaper, until the door operates as it should.

Sometimes it will be necessary to remove more wood than can be conveniently done with sandpaper. For this ailment, plane the offending edge with a block plane. When working on the top edge of the door, plane from the corner toward the center to keep from splitting out the edge grain.

When it is necessary to work on the bottom edge of a door, or work on the hinges you'll have to take the door down. To do this—open the door and block up the bottom corner on the latch side with an old magazine. With a stick of wood and a hammer tap out hinge pins.

Remove the bottom pin first by holding the stick of wood securely against the pin and tapping lightly. Replace the top pin first when re-hanging the door.

Don't put up with any of the annoyances discussed another day. They are simple as well as inexpensive to fix—you can do the job yourself.

Hub FFA Elects Officers

Charles Farris, of the Rustburg F. F. A. Chapter, has been elected to serve as president of the Hub Federation of the Future Farmers of America for the current school year. The Hub Federation is composed of F. F. A. Chapters from nine high schools in the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Campbell. The Federation sponsors various contests and other activities for the F. F. A. boys studying vocational agriculture in these counties.

Other officers elected to serve with Farris are: Gene Worley, of Amherst, as vice-president; Jimmy Sexton, of New London Academy, as secretary; Franklin Sites, of Brookville, as Treasurer, Myron Richardson, of Appomattox, as reporter; and Hassel Leonard, of William Campbell as sentinel. Elected to serve on the executive committee were Kenneth Nance, of Amherst, and Richard Franklin, of Huddleston.

The following events were planned for the coming year: a forestry judging contest, a public speaking contest, a degree team contest, a dairy judging contest, and a crops judging contest. Also planned was a father-son outing to be held in the spring.

William Campbell was announced as the chapter with the highest number of points for participation in the events held last year. Appomattox was second in this listing, and Rustburg was third. Each year outstanding students from each chapter compete against each other in the events listed above, and the chapters are rated according to the outcome. These events are a climax to studying these subjects in the vocational agriculture programs of the high schools involved.

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96 Years Young

Charleston, S. C.—A 96th birthday anniversary was the Crandall took an airplane ride.

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HOME ECONOMIST THIS AREA

Mrs. Audrey Robinson

Audrey Robinson has been to serve as home economist Farmville office of the Virginia Electric and Power Company. Appointment of Mrs. Robinson announced recently by W. N. Farmville manager. She Miss Lois Erdman, who is to Drexel Institute of Technology in Philadelphia, Pa., where work toward her master's

Robinson, a native of Carlotte, graduated from Ma- College at Harrisonburg, Va., successfully completed service training later Navy and was assigned to the Farmville office. She left the company in 1958 and was recently re employed.

Her duties will involve conducting programs for youth and adult groups, as well as individual consultation on home lighting, kitchen planning and use of electrical equipment in modern homemaking.

Mrs. Robinson will serve Appomattox, Amelia, Cumberland, Prince Edward, and Nottoway Counties.

KNOW THE WEATHER

By E. H. Sims

When is the period of maximum danger from a thunderstorm?

The maximum danger from lightning, in a thunderstorm, comes near the end of the heavy rainfall. Though many believe the low-hanging, dark leading edge of the cumulonimbus brings with it the greatest danger, that is not true.

Lightning, does originate in this leading edge, and precautions should be taken, but in the final minutes of the heavy downpour of a thunderhead, the maximum danger from lightning is encountered.

This is after the leading edge has passed overhead, and often when the severity of rainfall has begun to diminish.

Special Delivery?

New York City.- Delivering babies has become routine for Policeman Robert Dezendorf, Jr., 53? he has delivered 40 babies in 21 years on the force. He carries a special surgical kit to be ready for these frequent emergencies.

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Homemakers Items

Breakfast soups, a recent addition to the first meal of the day, are receiving a cordial welcome in some families, say Extension specialists.

A real taste tempter is a tomato soup shake. This takes the place of juice for breakfast, as well as giving added milk values. To make the shake, combine a can of chilled condensed tomato soup with a can of cold milk in a mixer or shaker. For an unusual favor and extra fun, add a cinnamon stick stirrer.

If you're a typical American family you eat most or all of your meals in the kitchen. An astaunding 70 per cent of all the home meals in the nation are served in the kitchen, according to a Market Research Corporation of America survey. The survey studied the diet, personal characteristics and attitudes toward food of people in 4,000 households from coast to coast The typical family income bracket has guests at about one out of seven meals. At 14 per cent of the meals, one or more guests are present. The average family serves 45 different dishes over a two-week period. Americans do a lot of eating at "snack" times, and 47 per cent of the snacks are eaten by adults after 7 P. M.

SCIENCE MOVES TO THE HOG LOT

Science in the hog lot is setting the stage for some revolutionary changes in production and marketing, says R. M. Godsey, associate animal husbandman at VPI.

He backs up his contentions with some facts. For instance, Godsey says the 200-pound hog that needed 760 pounds of feed and a growing period of from 6 to 7 months in 1938, can be produced today in about 5 months with less than 700 pounds of feed.

In 1920-24, it took 5.1 pounds of feed to produce a pound of gain —as average for all hog producers in the United Stats. In 1950 - 54, this was reduced to 4.5 pounds, a 12 per cent improvement. The advances since 1954 have been notable. It is now possible to make a pound of gain for 3.2 pounds of feed, and many top producers are doing this consistently.

Profits depend increasingly upon the producer's ability to keep up with research development in breeding, nutrition, disease control, and in a dozen related fields, Godsey says.

He sees also an increasing demand for pork, and an inrecase of the people who eat "higher on the hog."

As for the price situation in the near future, Godsey says it's true that there'll be $12 to $14 hogs this fall and part of next year. But the true optimist, he says, looks still further ahead to $20 hogs again in late 1960 to 1961. There are some profit prospects lurking around the corner, he believes.

No Regrets

Norman, Okla.- At a city commission meeting, a letter of resignation from Mrs. A. F. Gerken, a member of the safety commission, was read.

It was suggested it be accepted with regret.

"Oh, no, not with regret," said Commissioner June Benson, "She's leaving to have a baby." The resignation was accepted with congratulations.

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SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS RELEASE

By Donald H. Renner

Some senior citizens who live on limited budgets may be entitled to payments which they are not now receiving. Who are these people? Why are they not receiving payments? What can they do to get benefits that are due them?

Those senior citizens are fathers age 65 or over, and mothers age 62 and over, who depended on deceased sons or daughters for at least one-half of their support.

In August 1958, Congress changed the social security law to permit dependent parents to collect survivors' benefits even if the deceased worker was survived by a widow, a dependent widower, or a child under age 18.Before the 1958 amendments dependent parents could not qualify if other surviving members of the family were eligible for present or fu en, according to a Market Research Corporation of America survey. The survey studied the diet, personal characteristics and attitudes toward food of people in 4,000 households from coast to coast The typical family income bracket has guests at about one out of seven meals. At 14 per cent of the meals, one or more guests are present. The average family serves 45 different dishes over a two-week period. Americans do a lot of eating at "snack" times, and 47 per cent of the snacks are eaten by adults after 7 P. M.

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or child are urged to get in touch with their Social Security Office in Lynchburg, Virginia, or meet the Social Security Representative, who is at the Court House in Appomattox on the fourth Monday of each month at 10:00 A. M.

Renew your subscription.

A story is told of a young girl going through an insane asylum. She came to one ward where there was a man sitting over in the corner with his head in his hands, crying pit eously, "Oh, Lucy! Lucy! Lucy."

The girl said to the guide, "What in the world is the matter with this chap?"

"Well, that was a very sad case. This man 20 years ago fell in love with a girl by the name of Lucy. She jilted him and he never got over it."

They went from one ward to another and finally came to another ward where another chap over in the corner with his head in his hands was crying piteously, "Oh, Lucy! Lucy! Lucy!"

The visitor exclaimed, "Well, Lucy must have been a go-getter."

"No, said the guide. "That is the man who got Lucy."

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